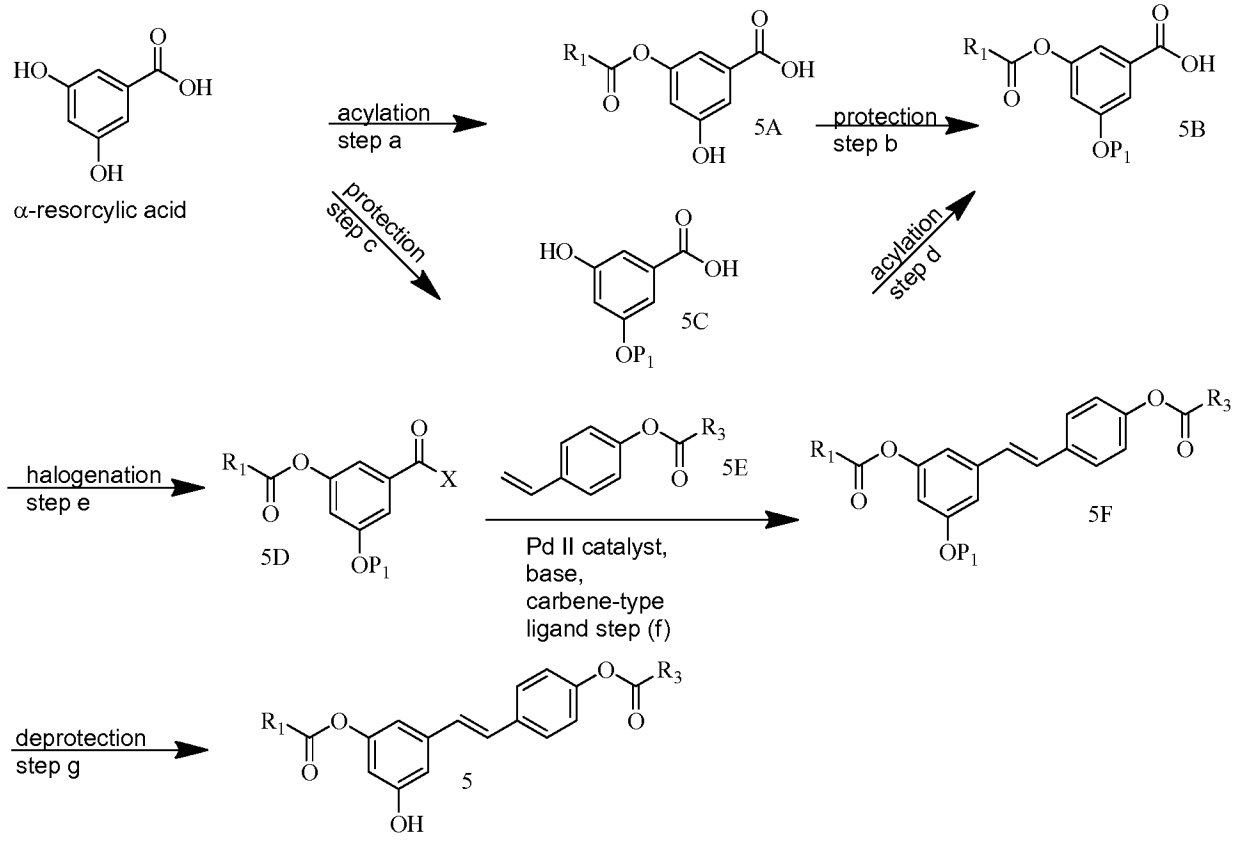
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

The changes in the following paragraphs from their immediate prior version are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ or [[double brackets]] for deleted matter and underlines for added information.

After Paragraph [0113] of US 2008/0255382 A1 (originally the paragraph on page 28, lines 29-30, of WO 2005/069998 A2), replace Scheme 6 with the following:

Scheme 6.



Please replace Paragraph [0114] of US 2008/0255382 A1 (originally the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 3, and ending on page 30, line 4, of WO 2005/069998 A2), with the following paragraph:

[0114] In another preferred embodiment, 3,4'-diester compounds of Formula 5, pharmaceutically and cosmetically acceptable salts thereof wherein R_1 and R_3 are independently selected from alkyl with at least one carbon atom, aryl, aralkyl, and diastereoisomers of the foregoing, are synthesized from the steps comprising the steps

a and b (or alternatively c and d), and e, f, and g: wherein step a) is esterifying resorcylic acid with an esterifying agent in solution or in suspension of a first solvent to give the 3-ester of resorcylic acid of Formula 5A; step b) is reacting the 5-hydroxy of said compound of Formula 5A with a first alcohol protecting agent in solution or in suspension of a second solvent to give a compound of Formula 5B, where P_2 is a first alcohol protecting group; step c) is reacting resorcylic acid with a first alcohol protecting agent in solution or in suspension of a second solvent to give a compound of Formula 5C, where P_2 is an alcohol protecting group; step d) is reacting the 5-hydroxy of said compound of Formula 5C with an esterifying agent in solution or in suspension of a first solvent to give the 3-ester of resorcylic acid of Formula 5B; step e) is halogenating said compound of Formula 5B using a halogenating agent in solution or in suspension of a third solvent to give the acid halide of Formula 5D, wherein X is halogen; step f) is coupling said compound of Formula ~~5B~~ 5D with a compound of Formula ~~5D,~~ 5E, with Pd II catalyst, N-heterocyclic carbene-type ligand, and a first base in solution or in suspension of a fourth solvent to yield a compound of Formula ~~5E;~~ 5F; and, step g) is deprotecting said first and second protecting groups from said compound of Formula ~~5E~~ 5F to give a compound of Formula 5. In some embodiments R is alkyl with at least two carbon atoms.

After Paragraph [0120] of US 2008/0255382 A1 (originally the paragraph on page 30, lines 29-30, of WO 2005/069998 A2), replace Scheme 7 with the following:

Scheme 7.